

Minimum College Admission Standards (Revised 2009)

College Academic Distribution Requirements – Guidelines for Educators

Beginning in 2012, high school graduates seeking freshman admission to Washington's public baccalaureate institutions will be required to meet new minimum college admission standards, approved by the Higher Education Coordinating Board in 2007, and revised in 2009.

At the core of these new admission standards is a common set of course requirements termed College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR).

CADR should not be confused with *high school graduation requirements*. CADR are more rigorous than high school graduation requirements, which are determined by the State Board of Education and local school districts.

When do the new standards take effect?

The revised minimum college admission standards, including the CADR, take effect with the summer 2012 academic term.

Therefore, it is imperative that after fall of 2008, high school freshmen receive guidance on meeting the revised minimum college admission standards - if they plan to apply for admission to a public baccalaureate institution following graduation in 2012.

Additionally, under a policy approved by the HECB in 2001, students must earn two credits of laboratory science in order to be considered

for regular admission to a public baccalaureate institution beginning in 2010 (see page three of this document for a timeline showing dates of impact).

Why revised admission standards?

The revised minimum college admission standards are intended to increase the likelihood of success for students admitted to Washington's public baccalaureate institutions by strengthening students' academic preparation.

The revised standards were adopted to more closely align with current admission practices of the state's public baccalaureate institutions. Note that these new admission standards represent the *minimum* standard for regular admission to one of the state's public baccalaureate institutions.

In some cases, simply satisfying minimum standards will not be enough to ensure admission to all state institutions. Many institutions also employ a comprehensive or holistic review process in determining who will be admitted. All students who plan to attend a college or university should obtain the admission information provided by the individual institution.

See pages 4-10 for CADR guidelines and credits needed by subject area.

Minimum College Admissions Standards

College Academic Distribution Requirements

To ensure that college students have an appreciation for the liberal arts and are adequately prepared to succeed, all freshman applicants, including Running Start students, will be required to meet the CADR covering six subject areas (see pages 4-10).

SAT or ACT Scores Required

Students unable to provide standardized ACT or SAT test scores may petition the institution for a waiver. No more than 5 percent of the new freshman enrolled annually at each institution may receive waivers from this requirement.

Minimum Grade Point Average

Students must attain a minimum, non-weighted cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. This does not represent a change in existing policy.

WASL / CADR Equivalency

Achieving proficiency on the 10th-grade reading WASL is equivalent to the first two CADR credits of English. Achieving proficiency on 10th-grade math WASL is equivalent to the first two CADR credits of math – (algebra I and geometry, or integrated math I and II).

Comprehensive Review

Currently, each of the public baccalaureate institutions employs a comprehensive or holistic review process for at least a portion of their applicants who are considered for admission.

Admissions Index

For baccalaureate institutions, a specific Admissions Index score is no longer required. However, some institutions may still consider the Admissions Index score in their admissions decisions.

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TRANSCRIPT DESIGNATIONS

Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 392-415-070 requires that standardized high school transcripts include a "B" designation for courses that meet or satisfy HECB core course requirements.

Under the revised minimum college admission standards, the "core course" requirements are renamed College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR).

It is the responsibility of each school district to determine which of their high school courses meet CADR guidelines and to ensure that the "B" designations are made on their respective students' transcripts.

COLLEGE ACADEMIC DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS (CADR)

CADR reflect the *minimum* number of credits required in six subject areas (see below) that students must earn to be eligible for routine admission consideration by four-year public baccalaureate institutions.

The 2009 revised minimum college admission standards encourage high school 9th graders, beginning with the 2008-09 academic year, to begin earning three credits of CADR credits each year of high school, including their senior year. Students must take a minimum of three CADR credits in grades 10-12.

The term *credit* replaces a "year of coursework." The change to *credit* recognizes block scheduling or alternative course delivery models that may allow a student to meet an academic requirement in less than a full year.

College Academic Distribution Requirements, by Subject Area

English	4 credits	Science	2 credits*	Arts	1 credit**
Math	3 credits	Social Science	3 credits	Foreign Language	2 credits
Senior year math-based quantitative course				1 credit***	Total: 15 credits

*Beginning in the summer 2010, two credits of laboratory-based science are required. One credit must be in an algebra-based laboratory science course (as determined by the school district). The other credit must be in biology, chemistry, or physics (this course may also meet the algebra-based requirement).

**Other academic electives may substitute, but not at all institutions. See CADR guidelines in this document.

***Quantitative math-based course required in senior year. Does not require higher level math than current admissions policy.

NOTE ON CADR:

The CADR are more rigorous than high school graduation requirements that are determined by the State Board of Education and individual school districts. High school students who plan to attend college are **strongly encouraged to exceed both the CADR and high school graduation requirements** to improve their potential for success.

The CADR are college/university admission requirements, not college graduation requirements. Therefore, they need to be completed before a student matriculates at a Washington baccalaureate institution – either in high school, in a dual credit program such as Running Start, or through college courses.

Individual institutions may have more rigorous standards or may have different processes to consider individual exceptions. Prospective students should obtain the admission information provided by the institutions. **See CADR guidelines pages 4-10.**

Minimum College Admission Standards **(Revised 2009)**

College Academic Distribution Requirements – Guidelines for Educators

Standards apply to college freshmen

Minimum college admission standards apply to students who are being considered for admission to a public baccalaureate institution as freshmen – defined as students who have earned less than 40 quarter hours of college-level credit or the equivalent.

NOTE: *Running Start and other dual-credit earning students, including those who have earned more than 40 quarter hours of credit, must meet minimum college admission standards, i.e., CADR, minimum GPA, submittal of SAT/ACT test scores, etc.*

When the new standards take effect

The revised minimum college admission standards will be fully implemented by baccalaureate institutions beginning summer of 2012. A new science requirement takes effect in 2010.

The new standards impact high school students beginning with the 2008-09 academic year. Key dates are noted below.

Summer 2008

In public baccalaureate institutions:

- “Credit” replaces a “year of coursework” to recognize block scheduling or alternative course delivery models.
- Use of the Admissions Index as admissions criteria is no longer required.
- SAT/ACT test scores are still required; 2.0 GPA on a scale of 4.0 is still required.
- Comprehensive review of admission applications is encouraged but not required.

Fall 2008

Beginning in 2008, high school freshmen who intend to pursue a baccalaureate degree must begin taking the courses needed to meet the revised minimum college admission standards, including the CADR.

High school freshmen in 2008, will be encouraged to complete at least three credits of CADR coursework. Students in grades 10-12 must take a minimum of three CADR credits in grades 10-12 (including the senior year).

Due to a previously approved science college admission requirement, beginning with the 2008 academic term, high school juniors intending to enroll in a public baccalaureate institution should begin working towards earning two credits of laboratory science, including one algebra-based course and one course in biology, chemistry or physics.

See CADR guidelines for more information.

Spring 2010

Beginning with 10th grade WASL tests administered in 2010, students who meet proficiency in math and reading (or the subsequent “re-takes”) may earn the first two CADR credits in math and English, respectively.

Summer 2010

Baccalaureate institutions implement the minimum college admissions standard that requires students to earn two credits of

laboratory science, with one credit required in an algebra-based science, and one credit in biology, chemistry, or physics.

Fall 2011

High school seniors must earn one CADR credit in math or other math-based quantitative coursework, e.g., statistics, applied math, appropriate career and technical courses; algebra-based science also would satisfy the senior-year quantitative requirement. This requirement does not mean students must pass a higher level of math - the intent is for students to take meaningful math in the senior year.

Summer 2012

Baccalaureate institutions fully implement the HECB’s revised minimum college admission standards.

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To download a copy of the complete policy changes approved by the Higher Education Coordinating Board, and other items related to minimum college admission standards, go to:

www.hecb.wa.gov/research/issues/admissions.asp

Minimum College Admission Standards (Revised 2009)

College Academic Distribution Requirements – Guidelines for Educators

Subject Area:	Minimum College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR)	Meeting the CADR if taken in high school	Meeting the CADR through college coursework
	<p>College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR) coursework equals 15 total credits</p> <p>NOTE: Previous minimum college admissions standards used the term 'year' to designate completion of what is now referred to as 'one credit' of high school coursework. The use of 'credit' recognizes that school districts may use alternative or block scheduling that permit students to earn a full credit in a given subject area in less than an academic year.</p>	<p>Students are encouraged to take a minimum of three credits of CADR courses each year of high school, including senior year. Students who are unable to complete three CADR as high school freshmen (grade 9) will be considered for admission provided they meet all other state and institutional admission requirements.</p> <p>Students must take a minimum of three credits of CADR courses in grades 10-12.</p>	<p>College credit equivalents for CADR credits</p> <p>College students who complete five quarter credits or three semester credits of college-level coursework will have earned the equivalent of one CADR credit.</p> <p>5 college quarter credits = one CADR credit 3 college semester credits = one CADR credit</p>
<p>English</p> <p>Implementation: Summer 2012</p>	<p>English – 4 credits</p> <p>Must include three credits of literature and composition.</p> <p>May include one credit of elective English, such as creative writing, journalistic writing, or English as a Second Language.</p> <p>NOTE: Passing the 10th grade WASL-Reading is equivalent to earning the first two credits of high school English.</p>	<p>English – 4 credits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must include three credits of college-preparatory composition or literature. One credit may be satisfied by courses in drama as literature, public speaking, debate, journalistic writing, business English, or English as a Second Language (ESL). <p>Remedial or applied courses are not acceptable (e.g. acting, basic English skills, developmental reading, library, newspaper staff, remedial English, review English, vocabulary, yearbook/annual).</p> <p>NOTE: English courses are considered equivalent to ESL unless taken in Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, or the United States. Course work completed prior to grade 9 does not apply toward this minimum college admission requirement.</p>	<p>English –</p> <p>Completing additional English CADR credits</p> <p>College students without four CADR high school English credits may earn credits by completing one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> College level course work in composition or literature component. Generally any course with an English or Writing prefix is acceptable. One credit may be satisfied by a college course in speech, drama as literature, journalistic writing, business English, ESL, or engineering/technical writing. <p>Courses such as developmental or speed reading, vocabulary, or remedial English are not acceptable.</p> <p>NOTE: English courses are considered equivalent to ESL unless taken in Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, or the United States.</p>

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Subject Area:	Minimum College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR)	Meeting the CADR if taken in high school	Meeting the CADR through college coursework
<p>Senior year math-based quantitative course</p> <p>Implementation: Summer 2012</p> <p>NOTE: The intent is to require that students take meaningful math during their senior year. The policy does not require a higher level of math than the basic requirement.</p>	<p>Math-based quantitative course One credit of math-based quantitative coursework is required in the senior year. This requirement may be met through enrollment in one of the three required math courses;</p> <p>OR... by completing a math-based quantitative course like statistics, applied math, or appropriate career and technical courses;</p> <p>OR... by completing an algebra-based science course.</p> <p>Substitute Provision: Successful completion of math through pre-calculus meets both the course and senior year math requirement.</p>	<p>Math or math-based quantitative course in senior year – 1 credit This requirement can be met by taking Algebra II (intermediate algebra), or Integrated Math III;</p> <p>OR... pre-calculus or math analysis (if Algebra II or Integrated Math III was completed prior to grade 12);</p> <p>OR... quantitative courses such as statistics, advanced level of applied math, or math-based career & technical courses;</p> <p>OR... algebra-based science course, e.g., chemistry, physics, or other science courses that incorporate knowledge of algebra.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Prior to the senior year, completion of higher-level math – e.g., pre-calculus, math analysis, or calculus – exempts students from the senior-year quantitative course requirement.</p>	<p>Comparable college courses in math, (e.g., pre-calculus, statistics, or algebra-based science) may apply.</p>

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Subject Area:	Minimum College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR)	Meeting the CADR if taken in high school	Meeting the CADR through college coursework
Mathematics Implementation: Summer 2012	<p>Mathematics – 3 credits</p> <p>Must include one credit each of Algebra I, geometry, and Algebra II (intermediate algebra);</p> <p>OR... three credits of Integrated Math (Integrated Math I, II, III).</p> <p>NOTE: Passing the 10th grade WASL-Math is equivalent to earning the first two CADR credits of high school math (Algebra I & geometry or Integrated Math I and II).</p>	<p>Mathematics – 3 credits</p> <p>Completion of three credits - Algebra I, geometry, and Algebra II (intermediate algebra);</p> <p>OR... the integrated Math I, II, III series is required.</p> <p>NOTES: Successful completion of math through pre-calculus meets the 3-credit math requirement.</p> <p>A high school-level algebra course completed prior to ninth grade may satisfy the requirement for one credit if Algebra II (intermediate algebra) is subsequently completed in the ninth grade or higher.</p> <p>Arithmetic, pre-algebra, business math, computer science, philosophy, and statistics courses will not count toward the requirement.</p>	<p>Mathematics – Completing a third math credit</p> <p>College students without a third high school mathematics credit may earn that credit by completing one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A course in intermediate algebra—the course must be completed with a grade of 'C' (2.0) or better. At Washington community colleges, this course is numbered below 100 and is considered the equivalent of the third year of high school math. It does not transfer as college credit. Mathematics courses with intermediate algebra as a prerequisite (see exceptions below). This includes any higher-level mathematics courses such as elementary functions, pre-calculus, calculus, and beyond. <p>NOTE: Courses in philosophy (e.g., logic), statistics, or computer science do not satisfy the mathematics requirement.</p>

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Science Implementation: Summer 2010	<p>Science – 2 credits</p> <p>Two credits of laboratory science are required.</p> <p>One of these credits must be in an algebra-based science.</p> <p>One of these credits must be in biology, chemistry, or physics</p> <p>Note: The above requirement for two credits of lab science takes effect in 2010.</p>	<p>Science – 2 credits</p> <p>Two credits of laboratory science are required for college admission in the 2010-11 academic year.</p> <p>One credit must be in an algebra-based science course. Students completing this requirement typically take this course in two successive high school semesters.</p> <p>One Credit must be in biology, chemistry, or physics (this course may also meet the “algebra-based” requirement).</p> <p>The principles of technology courses taught in Washington State high schools may also satisfy the laboratory science requirement.</p> <p>To complete the second credit, students may take courses identified by the school district as laboratory science courses, e.g., astronomy, environmental science, geological science, genetics, marine science.</p> <p>An algebra-based science course with laboratory taken in the senior year may satisfy both the science requirement and the senior-year math-based credit requirement (see math above).</p> <p>Note: Course work completed prior to ninth grade does not apply toward this college admission requirement.</p>	<p>Science – Completing additional CADR science credits</p> <p>College science courses with a lab will count toward the laboratory science requirement. For example, lab courses in astronomy, atmospheric science, biological structures, biology, botany, chemistry, environmental science (but not environmental studies), genetics, human physiology, geology, oceanography, physical anthropology, physical geography, physics, or zoology may apply toward this requirement.</p>

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<p>World Languages</p> <p>Current Policy</p> <p>No Change</p>	<p>World Languages – 2 credits</p> <p>Two credits of the same World Language, Native American Language, or American Sign language</p>	<p>World Languages – 2 credits</p> <p>Two credits must be earned in the same language. The World Language course work requirement will be considered satisfied for applicants who complete their education through the seventh grade in school(s) a) where English was not the language of instruction and b) in countries other than Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the UK, and the U.S.</p> <p>Course work completed in any World Language may be used to satisfy this requirement, including an American Indian language, American Sign Language (ASL), or languages no longer spoken, such as Latin and ancient Greek. However, other forms of sign language or computer “languages” do not satisfy the World Language requirement.</p> <p>NOTE: A World Language course taken in eighth grade may satisfy one credit of the requirement if the second year level course is completed in high school grades 9-12.</p>	<p>World Languages – Completing additional CADR credits</p> <p>Each five-credit quarter or three-credit semester of language in college is considered equivalent to one credit in high school. Applicants who have never studied a World Language will need to complete six semesters or 10 quarter credits of a single, sequenced World Language.</p> <p>College students who earned one credit of a World Language in high school must complete the equivalent of a second credit of that language in college.</p> <p>For example, a high school student who earned only one credit in French would be required to take five quarter credits, or three semester credits, of French 102 or equivalent to gain a second CADR credit.</p> <p>NOTE: College graduation requirements in World Languages often include the third year of the same language. 5 college quarter credits = one CADR World Language credit 3 college semester credits = one CADR World Language credit</p> <p>5 college quarter credits = one CADR World Language credit</p> <p>3 college semester credits = one CADR World Language credit</p>

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Social Science Current Policy No Change	Social Science – 3 credits	<p>Social Science – 3 credits</p> <p>Three credits are required in history or in any of the social sciences – e.g., anthropology, contemporary world problems, economics, geography, government, political science, psychology, sociology.</p> <p><i>NOTE: Credit for religion courses, consumer economics, student government, or community service will not count towards the requirement. Also, course work completed prior to grade 9 does not apply toward this admission requirement.</i></p>	<p>Social Science – Completing additional CADR credits</p> <p>Courses in the social sciences, e.g., anthropology, economics, ethnic studies, history, philosophy, political science, psychology, sociology, will count toward the requirement.</p>

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Arts Current Policy No Change	Arts – 1 credit One credit of fine, visual, or performing arts, or one additional credit in math, English, social science, lab science, or world languages.	Arts – 1 credit One credit in the fine, visual, or performing arts or an additional year in any of the academic areas defined above is required. Acceptable course work in the fine, visual, or performing arts may be chosen from art appreciation, band, ceramics, choir, dance, dramatics performance and production, drawing, fiber arts, graphic arts, metal design, music appreciation, music theory, orchestra, painting, photography, print making, or sculpture. Courses not acceptable toward this requirement include architecture, color guard, creative writing, drafting, drill team, fashion design, interior design, sewing, speech, web design or graphics, woodworking, & yearbook. Academic electives are courses in any of the six subject areas (defined above) beyond the minimum number of years specified above. NOTES: The UW and WWU specify that one-half credit of this requirement must be in the fine, visual, or performing arts; the other half may be either in the arts or in an academic elective. Course work completed prior to grade 9 does not apply toward this college admission requirement.	Arts – Completing additional CADR credits College students may meet the CADR requirement by taking: Five quarter credits or three semester credits in fine, visual or performing arts; OR... Three quarter credits or two semester credits in art, art history, cinema/filmmaking, dance, music, or photography; OR... Three quarter credits or two semester credits in drama except drama as literature courses. Note: Courses in architecture are generally not acceptable, except for those in architectural history.